

Introduced by Senator PadillaFebruary 22, 2008

An act relating to smoking.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1598, as introduced, Padilla. Smoking.

Existing law regulates and requires a license for the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products.

This bill would set forth a statement of legislative findings and declarations regarding the dangers of secondhand smoke.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:
3 (a) More than 440,000 people die in the United States from
4 tobacco-related diseases every year, making it the nation's leading
5 cause of preventable death.
6 (b) Secondhand smoke is responsible for an estimated 38,000
7 deaths among nonsmokers each year in the United States, which
8 includes 3,000 lung cancer deaths and 35,000 deaths due to heart
9 disease.
10 (c) Secondhand smoke exposure adversely affects fetal growth
11 with elevated risk of low birth weight and increased risk of Sudden
12 Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in infants of mothers who smoke.
13 (d) Secondhand smoke exposure causes as many as 300,000
14 children in the United States under the age of 18 months to suffer

1 lower respiratory tract infections, such as pneumonia and
2 bronchitis; exacerbates childhood asthma; and increases the risk
3 of acute, chronic, middle-ear infections in children.

4 (e) The United States Environmental Protection Agency has
5 classified secondhand smoke as a group A carcinogen, the most
6 dangerous class of carcinogen.

7 (f) The United States Surgeon General has concluded that there
8 is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

9 (g) The California Air Resources Board has put secondhand
10 smoke in the same category as the most toxic automotive and
11 industrial air pollutants by categorizing it as a toxic air contaminant
12 for which there is no safe level of exposure.

13 (h) The California Environmental Protection Agency has
14 included secondhand smoke on the Proposition 65 list of chemicals
15 known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and
16 other reproductive harm.

17 (i) More than 30 percent of California's housing is multiunit
18 residences, such as apartments and condos. In this type of housing,
19 scientific studies show that secondhand smoke can travel into and
20 out of open windows and doors, shared ventilation systems and
21 walls, ceiling crawl spaces, and gaps around electrical wiring, light
22 fixtures, plumbing, ductwork, and even baseboards.